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COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from OranienburgEVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED 

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DATE OF CONTENT  25X1ADATE OBTAINED  25X1ADATE PREPARED 27 January 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

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1. On 8 January 1954, the Weisse Stadt Settlement in Oranienburg was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, black-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets. No training activity was observed. Thaelmann Strasse and Breitscheidt Strasse were blocked. A fuel dump and a tank truck with tank trailer were seen at the southwestern corner of the billeting area.

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2. On 11 January, the western section of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, signal, and motor transport insignia. Neither routine duty nor vehicular traffic were observed between 7 and 11 January.

3. On 11 January, the Weisse Stadt Settlement was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, signal, and motor transport insignia. Some officers wore blue-bordered black epaulets with engineer and signal insignia. On 8 January, about 60 B were engaged in close-order drill, while student drivers were seen on two sidecar motor-

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4. On 16 December, source learned that the Sachsenhausen concentration camp that Major Babushkin (phonetically) was supply officer and superior to the administration of the Schuetzenhaus installation on Bernauer Strasse and the pertinent kitchen at 18 to 29 Diana Strasse. T-34 tank  truck  were parked in front of building No 147a.

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5. In late December, source learned at the Weisse Stadt settlement that Major Sherback (fnu) was superior to building No 9 occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, and the school rooms at building No 13. Vehicles observed included :

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6. Between 1 and 7 January, the officers' mess at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp was located in the section 2 A of building No 22/44. Officers with dependents were quartered in buildings Nos 18/20, 22/24, and 26/28. Buildings No 11, 13, and 15 also were officers' quarters. Instruction was held in the five class rooms of building No 150. Buildings Nos 145 through 148 were sealed and guarded by a double sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Six or seven unnumbered T-34 tanks, painted green, and several soldiers engaged in maintenance work were seen through the open gate of building No 149. The northern wing of building No 150 was occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Several Soviet women in civilian clothes were seen at building No 88 on Bernauer Allee. On 3 January, about 400 EM, 40 officers, and 15 women soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, left the billeting area toward the Schuetzenhaus installation. After a prolonged period, source again observed Soviet officers with their women and children in the streets of Oranienburg. On 2 January, two unnumbered T-34 tanks, painted green, entered the installation, coming from the direction of Sachsenhausen. On and after 4 January, the driving school unit practiced on the driving grounds behind the cemetery. On several days, groups of 20 to 30 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets marched from the Sachsenhausen concentration camp to the Weisse Stadt Settlement wherefrom they returned 2 or 3 hours later.
7. On 2 January, 10 x 132-mm unnumbered and canvas-covered rocket launchers left the Weisse Stadt Settlement toward Sachsenhausen. On 4 January, the same number of rocket launchers drove in the opposite direction. On 6 January, 8 x 132-mm rocket launchers left the Weisse Stadt Settlement toward Gernsdorf. On 2 January, 12 EM with red-bordered black epaulets did aiming practice with a 132-mm rocket launcher in front of building No 37. On 5 January, about 30 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and carrying signal equipment left the Weisse Stadt Settlement toward Gernsdorf.

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Comment. Compared with reports by the same source and other sources in early January 1954, there is no change in the occupation of the above installations. [redacted] Major Sherback (fnu) is carried as supply officer of the 53rd Mtrcl Bn of the 25th Tank Div. Equipment and insignia confirm the 16th (?) Gds RL and the unidentified signal battalion of the division in the Weisse Stadt Settlement. Some of the vehicle [redacted] are vaguely indicative of the Hq 25th Tank Div which is believed to be stationed in the Weisse Stadt Settlement. Shuttle traffic [redacted] rocket launchers between the Weisse Stadt Settlement and the Sachsenhausen concentration camp was previously reported by source of paragraph 6. [redacted] These rocket launchers were either old ones to be turned in or new ones; or rocket launchers belonging to the KVP. For key to the numerical designations of buildings at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp and Weisse Stadt Settlement see sketch attached to [redacted] respectively.

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